

the students scored significantly higher on standardized state assessments than their peer schools. McClure was one of only 84 middle schools in the country, and one of 19 Illinois schools to be distinguished with this award.

Thanks to the dedication of McClure Junior High School faculty, the hard work of the students, and the encouragement of their parents, the school has been identified as one of the very best in the United States.

I ask you to join me in congratulating the faculty, students, and parents of McClure Junior High School for their receipt of a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award, one of the highest honors a middle school can earn.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. NAVY SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DAVID
BLAKE McLENDON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brave sailor, dedicated citizen, and a great American, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon, who gave his life for his country.

Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO) McLendon was raised in Thomasville, Georgia. After graduating from Thomas County Central High School in 1998, he answered the call to service by enlisting in the U.S. Navy, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

He was a successful and dedicated naval non-commissioned officer, quickly rising through the ranks. His awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy Battle "E" Ribbon (two awards); Navy Good Conduct Medal (three awards); and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

In 2009, McLendon was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer and served as a Navy cryptologic technician. He was also a Navy SEAL. During his twelve-year Naval career, he served at Norfolk, Virginia and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the Joint Expeditionary Base at Little Creek, Virginia.

While deployed to Afghanistan, he was one of nine servicemembers tragically killed when their Army Blackhawk helicopter went down in the southern Afghanistan province of Zabul on Sept. 21, 2010.

SCPO McLendon's death is a great loss to this country, as he was a man of great promise and honor. He was described as a consummate Navy professional by his fellow servicemembers, and was known for his dedication, quick wit, and engaging sense of humor.

His death is also a great loss to his loving family. He is survived by his wife and parents, his brother and sister, his nieces and nephews, and his paternal grandmother.

Madam Speaker, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. His time on this earth was too short. He was a proud American, a brave sailor, and a true family man. In life he was loved and honored, and in

death he will be remembered by a grateful nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE
STORM FOR THEIR VICTORY IN
THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Seattle Storm for their incredible season and their victory in the Women's National Basketball Association Championship.

The Seattle Storm joined the WNBA in 2000 and has since been a remarkable team, a source of immense pride for the State of Washington. Their 2010 championship was their second, and the first under Coach Brian Agler. They were consistently the WNBA's best team, ending the regular season with a 28–6 record. The team's success continued into the post-season, where they went undefeated and became the first team in WNBA history to go 7–0 in the playoffs. By the end of their impressive run, the Storm had not been defeated at home.

The women of Seattle Storm play the game with great dedication and sportsmanship, and act as role models for our community's girls and boys. The team is also one of three WNBA teams that is not owned as a companion or "sister team" to an NBA team. Rather, they are independent and reflect the value of local-owned organizations.

Their championship was earned with hard work and commitment. Team members include Svetlana Abrosimova, Sue Bird, Abby Bishop, Swin Cash, Lauren Jackson, Allison Lacey, Camille Little, Ashley Robinson, Jana Vesela, Le'coe Willingham, and Tanisha Right. The enthusiastic and loyal Washington fans have also aided to the team's success and over 5,000 fans came to celebrate the championship at the Key Arena.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating the Seattle Storm for their undefeated playoff run and their 2nd WNBA Championship.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT HECHT FOR
HIS BRAVERY AND HEROISM

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Scott Hecht, a resident of Hauppauge, New York, for being awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. This prestigious award is given to civilians who risk their lives to save the lives of others. Scott Hecht saved a girl from drowning on July 30, 2009, in Mastic Beach, New York.

According to the Commission, "A teenage girl struggled to stay afloat in the Atlantic Ocean after being swept away from the beach

by a strong current. Beachgoers shouted for help, attracting the attention of Hecht, 45, a social worker, who was in a camping area nearby. Although he decided earlier not to swim that day because of rough surf conditions, Hecht entered the water with a short surfboard and, holding onto the board, swam out to the girl, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. He grasped her by the wrists and held them over the board and then started toward shore. Waves overtook them as they proceeded, and a lateral current swept them along the shoreline. Others aided the girl when they reached wadable water, and Hecht also reached the beach safely. Hecht was very tired and sustained scratches to his legs, but he did not need medical treatment."

I am proud to recognize Mr. Hecht for his bravery and selflessness and I thank him for helping make the 2nd District of New York a place in which citizens take care of their fellow citizens.

CONGRATULATING ST. PAUL
COLLEGE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the faculty, students and staff of Saint Paul College on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the school. Founded in 1910, Saint Paul College is an outstanding community and technical college that is a part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system (MnSCU). Saint Paul College has further distinguished itself by earning the nation's top ranking among community colleges according to the 2010 September/October edition of Washington Monthly Magazine.

Located on Cathedral Hill near downtown and overlooking at the State Capitol, Saint Paul College is a model two-year higher education institution, providing academic excellence and trade and technical skills to prepare students for success in the workplace.

Saint Paul College offers thirty-eight associate degree programs and sixty-one occupational certificate and diploma programs, including transfer and articulation agreements with 4-year colleges and universities that provide pathways for students to transfer and continue their higher education.

The first-place ranking and national recognition conveyed by Washington Monthly Magazine is a testament to the school's long-standing commitment to academic excellence and to the students and families in the community it serves. Generations of crafts and trades people in Minnesota have earned their education at Saint Paul College, and the school is poised to help more generations develop the skills they need for successful careers.

In honor of the 100th Anniversary of Saint Paul College, I am pleased to recognize the many achievements of the faculty, staff and students through this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.